THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Conveened at *Edinburgh* the 2d Day of *May*, 1734.

Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.

EDINBURGH:

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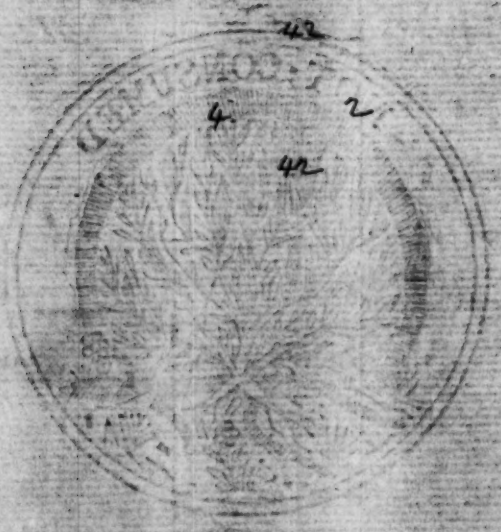

THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND;

Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 2d Day of *May* 1734, and holden till the 14th Day of the same Month and Year.

I.

The King's Commission to William *Marquis of* Lothian *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

At *Edinburgh*, 2d *May*, 1734, Sess. 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them by the most Honourable *William* Marquis of *Lothian*, His Majesty's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him his Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted to his Lordship last Year, and *Anno* 1732; and the same being publickly read with all due Honour and Respect, was appointed to be recorded in the Books of Assembly.

II.

The KING's *most Gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by his Majesty's Commissioner,* May 2d, 1734, Sess. 1.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We Greet you well. The Consideration of the great and good Ends for which you are conveened, and the Experience we have had, in former Assemblies, of your Wisdom in the Prosecution of them, and of your Loyalty, Zeal and Affection for Our Person and Government, and Our Royal Family, have induced us most readily to countenance this your Meeting, with our Royal Approbation and Authority. We doubt not but you now meet together with the same good Disposition and Intentions; and you may be always assured of our fixt Resolution to maintain the Church of *Scotland*, as it is by Law establisht in the full and free Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

As the best Methods and most effectual Means of promoting true Religion and Virtue, of suppressing Prophaneness and Immorality, and of preventing the Growth of Popery, will be the Subject of your Consultations, we are persuaded, that Matters of so great Importance, in which the Honour of God, the Prosperity of the Church, of which you are Members, and the Welfare of your Country, are so immediately concerned, will engage your whole Attention; and that there will appear in your Debates, upon so solemn an Occasion, so much Candour and Moderation, Brotherly Love, Charity and Prudence becoming so venerable a Body, as will secure the Success of your Endeavours, and recommend you to the Continuance of Our Favour and Protection.

Our Right Trusty and entirely beloved Cousin, *William* Marquis of *Lothian*, having in your former Meetings given such Proofs of his Loyalty and his Zeal for Our Service, of his firm Adherence to the Principles of the Church of *Scotland*, and of his Abilities, as were entirely to Our Satisfaction, We have again appointed him to represent Our Royal

Royal Person in your Assembly; and We do not doubt, but he will be equally acceptable to you, and that you will readily give him your best Assistance in the Discharge of so great a Trust; And so We bid you heartily Farewell. Given at Our Court at St *James*'s the 10th Day of *April*, 1734, in the seventh Year of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

Directed thus,
To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved, The Moderator, Ministers and Elders of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most Gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, May 4th, 1734. Sess. 3.

May it please your Majesty,

IT gives us the greatest Satisfaction, That your Majesty, in your most Gracious Letter, has been pleased to take Notice, that the great and good Ends for which we are conveened, the Wisdom of former Assemblies in the Prosecution of them, and our Loyalty, Zeal and Affection for Your Majesty's Person and Government, and Your Royal Family, have induced Your Majesty so readily to countenance this Our Meeting with Your Royal Approbation and Authority: This brings us under the strongest Obligations to act with the same good Disposition and Intentions now as formerly, to which we are greatly encouraged by the renewed Assurance Your Majesty is pleased graciously to give us of Your fixt Resolution, upon which we shall always confidently rely, to maintain this Church, as it is by Law established,

in the full and free Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

We are firmly reſolved, that the beſt Methods and moſt effectual Means of promoting true Religion and Virtue, of ſuppreſſing Prophaneneſs and Immorality, and of preventing the Growth of Popery, ſhall be the Subject of our moſt ſerious Conſultations; and theſe being Matters of ſo great Importance, in which the Honour of God, the Proſperity of Our Church, and the Welfare of our Country are ſo immediately concerned, ſhall engage our outmoſt Attention; and it ſhall be our greateſt Care, by the Divine Aſſiſtance, to manage all our Conſultations and Debates upon ſo ſolemn an Occaſion, with ſuch Candour and Moderation, brotherly Love, Charity and Prudence as becomes ſuch an Aſſembly, and as may moſt contribute to the Succeſs of Our Endeavours, and recommend us to the Continuance of Your Majeſty's Royal Favour and Protection.

The great Loyalty and Zeal for Your Majeſty's Service, which has always been ſo conſpicuous in the moſt Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, his affectionate Concern for this Church, and firm Adherence to its Principles, as well as his approved Ability for the Diſcharge of ſo great a Truſt, render Your Majeſty's Choice of him to repreſent Your Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly moſt acceptable to us, and obliges us to look upon it as a new Inſtance of Your Majeſty's Royal Favour to this Church, and to do our outmoſt to make the Execution of ſo high a Truſt eaſy and agreeable to him.

We humbly preſume to take this Opportunity of acknowledging with the greateſt Thankfulneſs your Majeſty's Royal Bounty in renewing Your pious and charitable Donation for the Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands: 'Tis with no ſmall Pleaſure we can aſſure your Majeſty, that the Application of it in former Years, hath, by the Bleſſing of GOD, produced very good Effects towards the promoting of Chriſtian Knowledge, and preventing the Growth of Popery, and, we hope, ſhall ſtill produce more; and it ſhall be our Care faithfully to imploy it to the good and laudable Purpoſes for which Your Majeſty has been pleaſed to grant it, and in exact Conformity to Your Majeſty's Royal Orders.

That our Good and Gracious GOD may abundantly bleſs, remarkably direct, countenance and proſper Your Majeſty in Your Counſels and Undertakings, and may long preſerve You to reign a happy Prince over a dutiful and obedient People; that he may plentifully bleſs Your Royal

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Consort the Queen, His Highness the Prince of *Wales*, and all the rest of the Royal Family; that he may make Your Majesty more and more a Blessing to these Lands, to this Church, and all the Protestant Churches; and honour You still further to be a glorious Instrument of preserving the Liberties of *Europe*, and terminating the Differences thereof; and that he may bless these Nations to the latest Posterity with an uninterrupted Succession of Protestant Princes of Your Royal Line to sway the Scepter over us, are and shall be the earnest Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in the National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by

JA. GORDON Moderator.

IV.

To the KING's *most Excellent Majesty,*

The humble Address of the Ministers and Ruling Elders met in the National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Edinburgh, May 4th, 1734.

May it please your Majesty,

WE the Ministers and Elders of the Church of *Scotland*, now conveened in a National Assembly, beg Leave, with the greatest Sincerity, and with Hearts full of Joy, to take this first Opportunity unanimously to congratulate Your Majesty upon the happy Marriage of the Princess Royal, with his Serene Highness the Prince of *Orange*, and to assure you, that the Satisfaction and Pleasure we have

upon this joyful Occaſion, is not inferior to that of any of Your moſt faithful and loyal Subjects.

The Goodneſs of God which has directed Your Majeſty's Wiſdom to a Choice, that muſt both contribute to ſtrengthen the Proteſtant Intereſt in *Europe*, and to ſecure to that moſt excellent Princeſs, for whoſe Honour and Welfare we have the moſt tender Concern, all the Joys and Comforts of conjugal Life, is what we acknowledge with great Thankfulneſs.

A freſh Union of the Royal Family, with the illuſtrious Houſe of *Naſſau* and *Orange*, in the Perſon of a Prince, who is the worthy Heir of our great Deliverer King *William*, to whom (under GOD) we owe the ineſtimable Bleſſings of the glorious Revolution, whereby we are reſcued from Eccleſiaſtical and Civil Tyranny, and the Eſtabliſhment of the Proteſtant Succeſſion: The Happineſs we enjoy under Your Majeſty's auſpicious Reign; and the eminent Virtues which adorn both their Highneſſes, fit to make them ſhining Examples in every Rank and Station of Life, fill us with the greateſt Hopes, that this happy Marriage ſhall produce a Series of Bleſſings to this and After-ages.

As this Church have, upon all Occaſions, given undoubted Proofs of her great Zeal and Loyalty to your Royal Perſon and Government; ſo we moſt chearfully embrace this Opportunity of praying Almighty GOD, that Your Majeſty may ever have the Happineſs to poſſeſs the Hearts and Affections of Your People, and be a Bleſſing to this and all the Proteſtant Churches; and, after a long and proſperous Reign upon Earth, You may exchange Your temporal Crown for a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away; and that your Imperial Crown may be handed down by a Succeſſion of Proteſtant Princes deſcended of Your Royal Perſon to lateſt Poſterity, are and ſhall be the earneſt Prayers of,

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient, and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in the National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Preſence, and at our Appointment, by

JA. GORDON Moderator.

V.

Act declaring the seventh Act of the General Assembly 1730, *and eight Act of Assembly* 1732, *to be no longer binding Rules in this Church.*

Edinburgh, May 9th, 1734. ante Merid. *Sess.* 7.

THE General Assembly considering, That whereas, by the penult Act, *Sess.* 23. *Assembly* 1639, it is ordained, That no Novation, which may disturb the Peace of the Church, and make Division, be suddenly proponed and enacted, but so as the Motion be first communicate to the several Synods, Presbyteries and Kirks, that the Matter may be approved by all at Home, and Commissioners may come well prepared, unanimously to conclude a solid Deliberation upon these Points in the General Assembly; and by *Act* 9th, *Assemb.* 1697, it is appointed, enacted and declared, That, before any General Assembly of this Church shall pass any Acts, which are to be binding Rules and Constitutions to the Church, the same Acts be first proposed as Overtures to the Assembly, and being by them past as such, be remitted to the Consideration of the several Presbyteries of this Church, and their Opinions and Consent reported by their Commissioners to the next General Assembly following, who may then pass the same into Acts, if the more general Opinion of the Church, thus had, agree thereunto; And, by *Act* 16. *Assembly* 1700, it is enacted and appointed, That when any Thing of publick Concern and great Weight is proposed to the General Assembly, to be passed as Overtures or Acts for a standing Rule to the Church, after the first Reading, it be delayed till the next Day of the Assembly's sitting, and ly on the Table to be seen and considered by all the Members; and likewise, when any Thing is past as Overtures by the General Assembly, it is ordained, That all and every Presbytery read them publickly in their Presbyterial Meeting. And by *Act* 18. *Assemb.* 1705, it is appointed, That the Agent for the Kirk in all Time coming, after every Assembly, so soon as the Acts thereof shall be printed, do transmit as many Copies of the same to every Presbytery within the Kingdom as will serve them, and each Parish within their Bounds; and ordains, That both

Presbyteries and Sessions, at their first Meeting, after receiving of the said Acts, cause read the same, at least so many of them as are of publick Concern; And whereas the *Act* 7. *Assemb.* 1730. entitled, *Act discharging the Recording of Reasons of Dissent*, and *Act* 8th, *Assemb.* 1732, entitled, *Act anent the Method of planting vacant Churches*, were not made according to the said former Acts, and are found hurtful to this Church; Therefore the said Acts 1730 and 1732, are hereby declared to be no longer binding Rules in this Church; And the General Assembly recommends unto, and ordains the several Judicatories of this Church, when the planting of vacant Parishes falls into the Hands of Presbyteries, to proceed therein according to the former Rules and Practice of this Church, that obtained before the Making of the said *Act* 1732.

VI.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, *and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End.*

Edinburgh, May 13th, 1734. Sess. 10.

THE General Assembly finding, That diverse late General Assemblies had granted Commissions to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and Management of His Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End; and the Assembly finding, That it has pleased our gracious Sovereign the King, out of his Royal Bounty, to renew his Grant of One thousand Pounds *Sterling* for the End foresaid this Year; therefore they do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint Mr. *James Gordon* Minister of the Gospel at *Alford* their Moderator, Masters *John Gowdie* Professor of Divinity in the University of *Edinburgh*, *Niel Campbell* Principal of the College at *Glasgow*, *James Smith* Principal of the University at *Edinburgh*, *Niel M'Vicar* at *Westkirk* His Majesty's Almoner,

moner, *William Guſthart* at *Edinburgh* one of His Majeſty's Chaplains, *George Logan* at *Edinburgh*, *James Bannatyne* there, *Matthew Crawfurd* Profeſſor of Eccleſiaſtick Hiſtory in the College of *Edinburgh*, *John Hepburn* at *Edinburgh*, *James Stevenſon* at *South-Leith*, *Alexander Trotter* at *Edrom*, *Thomas Howie* at *Annan*, *Thomas Campbell* at *Monigaff*, *James Laurie* at *Kirkmichael*, *John M'Vicar* in *Iſlay*, *Daniel Campbell* at *Kilninvar*, *Adam Ferguſſon* at *Logierate*, *Lauchlan M'Intoſh* at *Errol*, *John Currie* at *Kinglaſſie*, *James Hadow* Principal of the New College of St. *Andrews*, *James Lyon* at *Blairgourie*, *James Robertſon* at *Glenmuck*, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College at *Aberdeen*, *Adam Oliphant* at *Glenbucket*, *George Grant* at *Kirkmichael*, *Alexander Roſe* at *Nairn*, *Alexander M'Bean* at *Inverneſs*, *Thomas Chiſholm* at *Kilmorack*, *John Balfour* at *Nigg*, *Thomas Montfud* at *Kilmalie*, *Æneas M'Aulay* at *Applecroſs*, *John M'Kay* at *Larg*, *John M'Laren* at *Edinburgh*, *John Schaw* at *South-Leith*, *Samuel Semple* at *Libertoun*, *John Thorburn* at *Kirknewton*, *James Walker* at *Canongate*, *James Nisbet* at *Edinburgh*, *John Guthrie* at *Ratho*, *David M'Colm* at *Dudingſtoun*, *John Mathiſon* at *Edinburgh*, *Matthew Wood* there, *John Walker* at *Canongate*, *George Fordice* at *Corſtorphin*, *William Robertſon* at *Edinburgh*, *William Brown* there, *Robert Kinloch* there, *Alexander Ker* in the *Caſtle-kirk*, *John Glen* at *Edinburgh*, *John Spark* at *Currie*, *Patrick Cumine* at *Edinburgh*, *George Lindſay* at *North-Leith*, *George Wiſhart* at *Edinburgh*, *James Dawſon* at *Weſt-kirk*, *Robert Hamilton* at *Cramond*, and *George Gibſon* at *Collingtoun*, Miniſters; The Right Honourable *Archibald* Earl of *Ilay*, Sir *Hew Dalrymple* of *Northberwick* Baronet Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, *Duncan Forbes* Eſq; His Majeſty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of *Ormiſtoun* Lord Juſtice-Clerk, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* of *Drummore*, Mr. *Patrick Campbell* of *Monzie*, and Mr. *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies*, three of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, Sir *John Clark* of *Pennycook* Baronet, one of the Barons of His Majeſty's Exchequer, Mr. *Charles Areskine* of *Barjarg* His Majeſty's Solicitor, Mr. *Charles Erskine* of *Edenshead*, Colonel *John Erskine* of *Carnock*, *Patrick Lindſay* Eſq; Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, *Archibald M'Aulay* Eſq; Lord Conſervator of the *Scots* Privileges at *Campvere*, Sir *James Campbell* of *Aberuchil* Baronet, Sir *Thomas Gordon* of *Earlſtoun* Baronet, Mr. *Robert Steuart* and Mr. *Colin Drummond* Profeſſors of Philoſophy in the College of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *George Buchan* of Cumladge, Mr. *Albert*

Monro of *Coul*, Mr. *Alexander M'Millan* of *Dunmore*, Mr. *Joseph Cave* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Hepburn* of *Baads* Writer to the Signet, Mr. *Alexander Mitchel* of *Mitchel* Writer to the Signet, *James Nimmo* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, *Thomas Dundas* of *Fingask*, Mr. *Alexander Nisbet* of *Northfield*, *James Young* of *Killicanty*, Doctor *John Riddel* Phyſician in *Edinburgh*, *Robert Inglis* late Deacon Conveener of the Trades in *Edinburgh*, *John Dunbar* late Deacon Conveener there, *Hugh Hathorn* late Baillie in *Edinburgh*, Mr. *James Davidſon* late Town Treaſurer of *Edinburgh*, *John Paton* Bookſeller there, *Andrew Gardner* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, and *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, Ruling Elders, to be a Committee of this Aſſembly for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of *Scotland*, and for managing the Royal Bounty for the End foreſaid, according to, and in Terms of His Majeſty's Grant above-mentioned; and do hereby renew the Powers granted to the ſaid Committee by the Fourth Act of the General Aſſembly, *Anno* 1733, and the whole Acts therein mentioned in all Points. Any Seven of the foreſaid Perſons are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof Four are always to be Miniſters; and the foreſaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings in the Hall of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, the laſt *Thurſday* of every Month, at Three in the Afternoon, and alſo the firſt lawful Day after Adjournment of the four ſtated Diets of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be on *Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be on the *Monday* next thereafter, with Power to adjourn themſelves to ſuch Times and Places as they ſhall find needful, and to keep a Correſpondence with the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, and Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee. And the General Aſſembly do hereby nominate and appoint Mr. *William Grant* Advocate Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the ſame, as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the foreſaid Committee, and according to their Rules.

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VII.

Commiſſion to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders for diſcuſſing diverſe Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 14th. 1734, Seſſ. ult.

THE General Aſſembly finding there are diverſe weighty Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commiſſionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *James Gordon* Miniſter at Alford their Moderator, Meſſrs. *Thomas Galloway* at St. Andrews in Orkney, *William Mair* at Holm, *George Coupland* at Birlay, *John Keith* at Walls, *John Scollay* at Stronſay, *James Fameſon* at Rouſay, *James Grierſon* at Tingwall, *John Duncan* at Breſſay, *John Gowdie* Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, *George Logan* at Edinburgh, *James Bannatyne* there, *Matthew Crawfurd* Profeſſor of Eccleſiaſtick Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, *John Hepburn* at Edinburgh, *James Stevenſon* at South-Leith, *James Smith* Principal of the College of Edinburgh, *John Bonar* at Torphichen, *James Kid* at Queensferry, *William Haſty* at *Slamanna*, *Robert Boyd* at Moravenſide, *David Blenſhall* at Lamington, *John Thomſon* at Liberton, *Alexander Walker* at Kirkurd, *Gilbert Hutchiſon* at Innerleithan, *Chriſtopher Cairns* at Tweedsmure, *Walter Cavers* at Falla, *John Williamſon* at Inveresk, *David Plenderleith* at Ormiſton, *Andrew Dickſon* at Aberlady, *William Carlyle* at Preſton-pans, *Edward Steedman* at Haddington, *John Hamilton* at Stenton, *John Clunie* at Whitekirk, *William Home* at Fogo, *Matthew Dyſart* at Eccles, *Alexander Trotter* at Edrom, *Henry Veitch* at Swinton, *James Landereth* at Simpron, *James Ramſay* at Kelſo, *William Walker* at Mackerſton, *John Gilchriſt* at Bedrule, *Hugh Kennedy* at Cavers, *Robert Rickleton* at Hopkirk, *Walter Scot* at Weſtruther, *Thomas Old* at Legertwood, *David Brown* at Selkirk, *Thomas Boſton* at Ettrick, *Thomas Howie* at Annan, *James Gatt* at Graitney, *Robert Jarden* at Lochmaben, *Robert Kirkland* at Dalton, *John Whitehead* at Mouſewell, *Thomas Tod* at Derrisdeer, *John Lawſon* at Cloſeburn, *James Hill* at Kirkpatrick-durham, *John Millar* at Kirkgunzean, *Chriſtopher Wright* at Orr,

William Tod at Butle, *William M'Kie* at Balmaghie, *James Rowan* at Parton, *Thomas Campbell* at Monigaff, *Samuel Brown* at Kirkmabreck, *Hamilton Kennedy* at Balintrae, *Alexander Henderſon* at Port-patrick, *John Steil* at Cumnock, *James Laurie* at Kirkmichael, *William Cotts* at Dalmellington, *Robert Alexander* at Girvan, *Thomas Walker* at *Dundonald*, *Hugh Fauſide* at Loudoun, *Andrew Cumming* at Largs, *William M'Knight* at Irvine, *Robert Johnſton* at Kilbarchan, *Patrick Maxwell* at Inchenan, *William Pollock* at Killallan, *Matthew Connel* at Kilbryde, *Robert Hamilton* at Hamilton, *William M'Culloch* at Cambuſlang, *Robert Gray* at Wiſton, *John Orr* at Lanerk, *Charles Hunter* at Petinean, *Andrew Tait* at Carmunnock, *William Love* at Cathcart, *Charles Cots* at Govan, *Neil Campbell* Principal of the College of Glaſgow, *James Robertſon* at Luſs, *John Smith* at Fintray, *James Anderſon* at Roſneath, *Walter Campbell* at Dunoon, *Alexander M'Kay* at Kilfinan, *Andrew Duncanſon* at Kilchalmonell, *John M'Vicar* at Kildaltan, *James Getty* at Inverary, *Patrick Campbell* at North-Knapdale, *Daniel Campbell* at Kilninvar, *James Campbell* at Kilbranden, *William Moriſon* at Tiree, *John M'Clean* at Kilninian, *Adam Fergusſon* at Logierate, *John Hamilton* at Kenmore, *Robert Robertſon* at Kirkmichael, *Thomas Man* at Dunkeld, *Thomas Shaw* at Scoon, *James Faichney* at St. Martin, *George Meek* at Rogorton, *Lauchlan M'Intoſh* at Errol, *John Gray* at Dollar, *John Taylor* at Alloa, *Henry Lindſay* at Bothkennar, *John Drummond* at Creiff, *Andrew Burgh* at Madderty, *William Hally* at Muthill, *William Simſon* at Dumblane, *John Fergusſon* at Port, *John Gib* at Cleiſh, *James Wardlaw* at Dumfermline, *Thomas Mair* at Orwall, *John Currie* at Kinglaſſie, *Alexander Adam* and *David Marſhall* at Kircaldy, *William Thomſon* at Fliſk, *George Gilleſpie* at Stramiglo, *William Smibert* at Kilmenie, *John Ballingall* at Colleſſie, *James Chalmers* at Ely, *William Vilant* at Ferry-parton-craig, *John Stewart* at Cameron, *William Dalgleiſh* at Carnbie, *James Hadow* Principal of the new College of St. Andrews, *David Thomſon* at Meigle, *Thomas Aiton* at Alyth, *James Lyon* at Blairgourie, *Robert Young* at Innerarity, *George Ogilvie* at Kirrymuir, *John Williſon* at Dundee, *James Monro* there, *William Thomſon* at St. Martin, *John Henderſon* at Kirkden, *Robert Preſton* at Abereliot, *Robert Gray* at Brichen, *John Row* at Lathnot, *Andrew Knox* at Kinnaird, *Anthony Dow* at Fettercairn, *Andrew Thomſon* at Laurence-Kirk, *Alexander Shank* at St. Ceres, *James Howie* at Newhills, *Robert Melvill* at Duires, *William Abercromby* at Skene, *James Ogilvie*

vie at Aberdeen, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College there, *John Osburn* Principal of the Marishall College there, *James Robertson* at Glenmuick, *John Shepherd* at Colston, *George Shepherd* at Aboyn, *Adam Oliphant* at Glenbucket, *William Miln* at Kildrumie, *Andrew Moir* at Towie, *William Forbes* at Tarves, *Henry Lickly* at Meldrum, *James Strachan* at Kinkell, *James Chalmers* at Daviot, *James Darline* at Keith-hall, *John Forbes* at Deer, *William Mercer* at Pitsligo, *John Brown* at Longside, *William Johnston* at Montwhiter, *Andrew Gauld* at Auchterless, *Walter Morison* at Deskford, *John Gilchrist* at Keith, *John Scrogie* at Huntly, *George Grant* at Kirkmichael, *Lewis Chapman* at Alvie, *Alexander Fraser* at Inveraven, *John Paul* at Rothes, *George Gordon* at Alves, *Robert Miln* at Spynie, *John Squire* at Forress, *Alexander Rose* at Nairn, *Alexander M'Bain* at Inverness, *Robert Thomson* at Kirkhill, *George Gordon* at Cromarty, *Hugh Campbell* at Kilmure Wester, *John Balfour* at Nigg, *John M'Arthur* at Logie Easter, *Thomas Chisholm* at Kilmorack, *James Fraser* at Alness, *John Skeldo* at Kilmanivaig, *Thomas Montfud* at Kilmalie, *Daniel M'Aulay* at Braccadale, *Donald M'Queen* at Rum, *Aulay M'Aulay* at Harris, *John M'Clean* at Northuist. *Æneas Sage* at Lochcarron, *Æneas M'Aulay* at Applecross, *John M'Kay* at Larg, *William Rose* at Kildonan, *Walter Ross* at Tongue, *Hugh Corss* at Bowar, and *William M'Beth*, at *Olrig* Ministers; His Grace *James* Duke of *Athol*, the most Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweedale*, the Right Honourable *David* Earl of *Buchan*, *Thomas* Earl of *Haddington*, *Charles* Earl of *Lauderdale*, *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, *Alexander* Earl of *Marchmont*, *James* Earl of *Hyndford*, *Archibald* Earl of *Ilay*, *James* Viscount of Oxford, *James* Lord Aberdour, *William* Lord Ross, *James* Lord Cranston, *Francis* Lord *Napier*, *George* Lord *Reay*, Sir *Hugh Dalrymple* of North-Berwick Bart. Lord President of the Court of Session, *Duncan Forbes* Esq; His Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of Ormiston Lord Justice Clerk, Mr. *James Erskine* of *Grange*, Sir *Walter Pringle* of Newhall, Sir *Gilbert Elliot* of Minto Baronet, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* of Drummore, Mr. *Patrick Campbell* of Monzie, Mr. *Alexander Fraser* of Strichen, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of Elchies, and Mr. *John Sinclair* of Murkle, nine of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir *John Clark* of Pennycook Bart. one of the Barons of Exchequer, Mr. *Alexander Gibson* Merchant in Evie, Capt. *James Craigie* Merchant in Lerwick, *Archibald M'Aulay* Esq; Conservator of the Scots Privileges in Campvere, Sir *John Inglis* of Cramond Bart. Mr. *Robert Hepburn* of Baads Writer to

the Signet, Mr. *Joseph Cave* Merchant in Edinburgh, *Patrick Lindsay* Esq; Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *James Hunter* Deacon of the Wrights there, *Alexander Gillon* of Walhouse, *Alexander Hamilton* of *Innerwick*, *William Dalling* in Borrostownes, the Honourable Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Edenhead, Mr. *Alexander Menzies* of Coulterallas Advocate, *Alexander Williamson* of Chappelhill, Mr. *Robert Dundas* of Arniston, *William Ray* Baillie in Haddington, Sir *Robert Dalrymple* of *Castilton* Advocate, Mr. *Thomas Hamilton* Advocate, *Lodovick Cant* of Thurston, Mr. *George Buchan* of Cumladge, Sir *John Stewart* of Allanbank Baronet, Mr. *Charles Binning* of Pilmore Advocate, *John Edgar* of Weatherly, *John Douglas* late Baillie of Selkirk, *Alexander Ferrier* of Cowden-knows, *John Johnston* Provost of *Annan*, *Robert Kirkpatrick* in Craigsheill, Mr. *Charles Areskine* of Barjarg His Majesty's Sollicitor, *George Irvine* of Newton, *Albert Kennedy* Merchant in Dumfries, *James Corrie* late Provost of Dumfries, Sir *Thomas Gordon* of Earlston Baronet, *Matthew Miller* late Baillie of New-Galloway, *John Brown* in Craignell, *Hugh Hathorn* late Baillie of Edinburgh, *John Gray* late Baillie in Stranrawer, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* Advocate, Mr. *James Boswel* of Auchinleck Advocate, *William Stephenson* of Barbeth, Mr. *William Warner* of Ardier, Sir *John Maxwell* of Pollock Baronet, Sir *Hugh Montgomery* of Skelmorly Baronet, Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* of Pancaitland, Sir *James Lockhart* of Carstairs Baronet, *John Bryce* of Lumloch, *Hugh Roger* Provost of Glasgow, *George Spence* Provost of Ruglen, *George Buchanan* of Ballochryn, Mr. *George Smollet* of Ingliston Advocate, Sir *James Campbel* of Ardkinglass Baronet, *William Stuart* of Hartwood, Mr. *Alexander Mackmillan* of Dunmore, Mr. *John Campbel* of Succoth Advocate, Sir *Duncan Campbel* of Lochnell Baronet, Sir *James Campbel* of Aberuchil Baronet, *Colin Campbel* of Kilbride Esq; *John Stuart* of Balnakily, *George Hay* of Leys, *Colin Brown* late Provost of Perth, *Patrick Cree* Provost of Perth, Mr. *Alexander Bruce* of Kennet, *Thomas Drummond* of Meillor, *James Wardlaw* of Neatherbeath, the Honourable Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, *David Willson* Merchant in Dumfermline, *Robert Balfour* of Balbirny, the Honourable Mr. *James Lesly* one of the Commissars of Edinburgh, Doctor *Robert Hay* of *Strowie*, *John Cunningham* of Pitterthy, *James Ferny* Dean of Gild in St. Andrew's, *Patrick Drummond* of Gairdrum, *Thomas Adamson* in Killimure, *David Haliburton* Writer in Dundee, *Doig* Baillie in Aberbrothwick, *Edward Lesly* Baillie in Brichen, *Charles Crokat* late Baillie in Edinburgh, *Robert*

bert Stuart late Provoſt of Aberdeen, *William Cruikſhank* Provoſt of Aberdeen, *Hugh Hay* Baillie there, Sir *Arthur Forbes* of Craigievar Bart. *James Forbes* Uncle to Alford, *James Dick* Merchant in Balmakeſſie, Capt. *John Forbes* of Boyndly, Mr. *Alexander Gairden* of Troup Advocate, *Archibald Dunbar* of Tillienaught Mr. *William Duff* of Cromby Advocate, *Lodovick Colquhoun* of Luſs Advocate, *Joſeph Brody* of Milnton, *James Roſe* of Brae, *Thomas Urquhart* Baillie of Forreſs, *John Frazer* Baillie in Inverneſs, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch, *Donald Roſs* Baillie in Taine, Mr. *Albert Monro* of Coull, *William M'Cleod* of Eboſt, and *Andrew M'Culloch* Baillie of Dornoch, Ruling Elders, to be Commiſſioners of this General Aſſembly, to the Effects after-mentioned, with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt free Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, and afterwards the ſecond *Wedneſdays* of *Auguſt*, *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient, with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator. And likewiſe the General Aſſembly fully impowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum* above-mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtructions given, or to be given by this Aſſembly, and to advert to the Intereſt of the Church, on every Occaſion, that the Church and preſent Eſtabliſhment thereof do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any Prejudice, which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Providing always, that this general Clauſe be not extended to particular Affairs, or Proceſſes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of univerſal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church; And it is hereby appointed, that no private Proceſſes be determined, except at the four ſtated Diets, and what ſhall be determined at one Diet of the ſaid Commiſſion, with Relation to private Cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in Force till diſapproven by the General Aſſembly. And the General Aſſembly renews the Inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly, *anno* 1717, to their Commiſſion; and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full Force as Inſtructions to the Commiſſioners

above-named, and to be obſerved by them in all Points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſert; And that they enquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconſiſtent with our Confeſſion of Faith, and the Recommenders of ſuch Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that ſhall be made to them from Synods in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen ſuch Affairs for the General Aſſembly; likewiſe to take care that the Impreſſions of the holy Scriptures, the Confeſſion of Faith and Catechiſms, and ſuch Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Government thereof, be correct, and to give Directions about printing the ſame. They are alſo appointed at their firſt Meeting to take under Conſideration, all Repreſentations of the Growth of Popery, within the Bounds of this National Church, and of Meeting-houſes not authorized by Law, which have been brought up to this and former Aſſemblies, or Commiſſions thereof, or may be further offered to this Commiſſion, and to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and ſpeedy Redreſs. And the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby ſtrictly prohibited and diſcharged, to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them as above-mentioned: And in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Conſtitutions of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that in and for all their Actings, they ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure until another Commiſſion be appointed, and the Members are required to attend the Diets of the ſaid Commiſſion, and Abſents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Aſſembly 1706. And for the better ſecuring of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commiſſion, and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof; and Presbyteries at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Mem-

Members on the Commission, are to take care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same. And the Assembly recommend to their Commission at their first Meeting, to discuss as many of the Causes and Questions relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are or shall be referred to them by the Assembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church shall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commission, or to give the same a full Execution; In that Case, the Commission is hereby prohibited to execute the same, by appointing any such correspondent Meetings as has been the Practice of late, but shall allow the Matter to ly over to the ensuing Assembly, to which such Presbyteries or Synods shall be answerable for such their Conduct; and are hereby appointed to send up with their Commissioners their Reasons for the same.

VIII.

Act concerning Mr. Ebenezer Erskine, *and other Ministers his Adherents; and a Commission and Recommendation to the Synod of* Perth *and* Stirling *concerning them.*

Edinburgh, May 14th, 1734. Sess. ult.

THE General Assembly considering the great Hurt and Prejudice that hath at all Times arisen, and must yet arise to the Church, from Divisions and Animosities creeping in, and taking Root amongst the Members thereof, notwithstanding their Unanimity in Sentiments upon material and fundamental Points, which more nearly concern the promoting the Interests of our blessed Lord and Saviour, the establishing the Peace of the Church, and the Advancement of practical Godliness and true Religion within the Bounds of it; and particularly the lamentable Consequences that have followed, and may yet follow upon the Separation of Masters *Ebenezer Erskine*, *William Wilson*, *Alexander Moncrief*, and *James Fisher*, from this

Church and Judicatories thereof; and judging it their Duty to endeavour by all just and proper Means, consistent with the Honour and Glory of GOD, and the maintaining the Peace and Authority of the Church, to restore Harmony and brotherly Love amongst all the Members of it; Therefore the General Assembly, without further enquiring in to the Occasions or Steps of proceeding, either on the Part of the said Brethren, or by the several Judicatories, under whose Consideration their Case hath been, which may have produced that unhappy Separation; but resolving that all Questions upon those Heads shall for hereafter be comfortably removed, have impowered, and hereby do impower the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, (before whom the Exceptions to some Part of the Conduct of two of these four Reverend Brethren were first taken and tried) upon such Application made to them as they shall judge proper, to take the Case of the said four Brethren as it now stands under their Consideration, with full Power to the said Synod to proceed, and do therein as they shall find most justifiable and expedient for restoring the Peace, and preserving the Authority of this Church, and for promoting the Edification of the Members of the Body of CHRIST; and particularly for uniting the said four Brethren to the Communion of this Church, and restoring them to their respective ministerial Charges: But with this express Direction, that the Synod shall not take upon them to judge of the Legality or Formality of the former Proceedings of the Church Judicatories in Relation to this Affair, or either to approve of, or censure the same, but shall only, in virtue of the Power and Authority now delegated to them by the Assembly, proceed to take such Steps for attaining the above Ends for the future, as they shall find just, and tending to Edification: And the Assembly do hereby appoint the foresaid Synod to meet at *Stirling* upon the first *Tewsday* of *July* next, and from Time to Time, to name and appoint the Place and Diets of their After-meetings on the said Affair, as they shall see Cause, until the Matter shall be ripened for a final Conclusion, and recommend to them to use their utmost Endeavours to bring the Matter, as soon as reasonably can be, to a final and happy Issue.

IX.

Act concerning Miniſterial Freedom in this Church.

Edinburgh, May 14th, 1734. Seſſ. ult.

THE General Aſſembly conſidering, That ſome are under Apprehenſions, that by the 7th Act of *Aſſemb.* 1733, concerning Mr. *Ebenezer Erſkine* and others, Miniſters of this Church, are laid under greater Reſtraints as to their Miniſterial Freedom than they were by the Rules of this Church before the ſaid Act was paſt: Therefore they do, for the Satisfaction of all, hereby declare, that due and regular Miniſterial Freedom is ſtill left entire to all Miniſters, and that the ſame was not, nor ſhall be held or underſtood to be any wiſe impaired, or reſtrained by the late Aſſembly's Deciſion in that particular Proceſs.

X.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, May 14th, 1734. Seſſ. ult.

THE next General Aſſembly of this National Church is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, upon the ſecond *Thurſday* of *May* next, in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty five.

The General Aſſembly was concluded with Prayer, and ſinging Part of the CXXII. *Pſalm from the 6th Verſe to the Cloſe, and pronouncing the Bleſſing.*

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly, by

WILLIAM GRANT *Cls, Eccl. Scot.*

Remit to Presbyteries concerning an Overture for planting vacant Churches.

May 13th, 1734, Sess. 10.

WHEREAS the General Assembly have not now Time to prepare and transmit a proper Overture about the Method of planting vacant Churches, they recommend to, and enjoin all the Presbyteries of this Church to take that Matter into their Consideration, and send up their Members to the next General Assembly, instructed to propose such Overtures, as shall be prepared by the several Presbyteries concerning the same, to be considered by the next General Assembly.

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Printed Acts of the General Aſſembly, held in the Year 1734.

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OF THE

ACTS of the General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1734, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon, by Mr. *John Gowdie* Moderator of the former General Aſſembly, the Miniſters and Ruling Elders, Members of this Aſſembly, did conveen, and the Roll having been made up by the Clerk, and two Commiſſions from the Presbytery of *Perth*, to different Perſons being produced, it was agreed, that neither of them be called in the Rolls, until the Aſſembly give their Deciſion in the Matter. *May* 2d, *Seſſ.* 1.

Mr. *James Gordon* Miniſter of the Goſpel at *Alford* was choſen Moderator. *Ibid.*

The King's Commiſſion to the Marquis of *Lothian* to repreſent his Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

His Grace His Majeſty's Commiſſioner Speech at opening the Aſſembly, and the Moderator's Speech in Return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Anſwer to His Majeſty's gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Bills, References and Appeals. *Ibid.*

A Committee for examining Commiſſions to Members of this Aſſembly, and to name Miniſters to preach before his Grace His Majeſty's Commiſſioner, and to receive in the Liſts of Probationers and Students in Divinity, and all Letters of Excuſe for Abſence of Members were appointed to be laid before this Committee. *Ibid.*

A Diet ſpent in Prayer. *May* 3. *Seſſ.* 2.

Miniſters named to preach before His Majeſty's Commiſſioner the next Lord's Day, and the Sabbath thereafter. *Ibid.*

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A Committee named to draw up an Addreſs to His Majeſty, upon Occaſion of the late happy Marriage of the Princeſs Royal, with his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, did withdraw immediately for that Purpoſe; and an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly was brought in and approved. And the foreſaid Committee brought in thereafter the Draught of the ſaid Addreſs, which was alſo approved of, and the Lord Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſaid Anſwer and Addreſs to His Majeſty. *May* 4. *Seſſ.* 3.

A Committee of Perſons out of each Synod is appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, audite the Procurator and Agent's Accounts, conſider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame, agreeable to the 7th Act of Aſſembly 1712, and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719, and all Petitions and other Claims whatſoever, for any Share of the publick Money, appointed to be laid before the ſaid Committee; and they were appointed to prepare any Overtures and References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to reviſe the Regiſter of the Proceedings of the Committee appointed by the late Aſſembly for managing the Royal Bounty granted for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands. *Ibid.*

Committees were appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings of the Synod of *Orknay*, Presbytery of *Zetland*, Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*; *Dumfries*, *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fife*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Roſs*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, and the Receivers of the ſaid Books are made Conveeners of the reſpective Committees; and the Synod Books of *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray* and *Glenelg*, not being produced, the Aſſembly reſolved to enquire into the Reaſons thereof, when they take in the Reports of the Viſitors of the other Books. *Ibid.*

A Committee is named to receive in from the Commiſſioners from the ſeveral Presbyteries their Synods and Presbyteries Inſtructions, and any Overtures they offer, and to claſs the Matters therein contained; alſo for conſidering the State of the North, and Highlands and Iſlands, particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superſtition, and prepare Overtures for ſuppreſſing and preventing the ſame, and to report to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee, who inſpected the Commiſſions to Members of this Aſſembly, brought in, with

an Opinion of the Committee for Overtures thereupon; and in Terms thereof, the Assembly sustained all the Commissions: But there being two several Commissions from the Presbytery of *Perth* to different Persons as their Representatives, the Assembly resolved to take the Affair under Consideration against *Monday* next. *Ibid.*

It was remitted to the Committee for Overtures to consider the Representation of the Synod of *Ross*, Addresses of the Synods of *Murray*, *Merse*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Perth*, and Presbyteries of *Wigton*, *Kirkcudbright*, *Penpont* and *Alford*, with Relation to the Grievances of this Church, by Reason of Patronages, *&c.* the 8th Act of Assembly 1732 anent planting vacant Churches, and the Procedure of the late Commission in the Case of Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* and others. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of Heritors and Elders of the Parish of *Cambushnethan*, from the Presbytery of *Hamilton* their Sentence concerning the Settlement of that Parish, being moved, it was resolved to take in that Affair as the first private Cause. *Ibid.*

A new Commission produced, and Additions made to Committees, *May* 6th, *Sess.* 4.

Resumed the Consideration of the double Return of Representatives from the Presbytery of *Perth*, and sustained the second Election made the 20th *March*, the Commission to the Members then chosen being formal, and regularly revised and attested by the Presbytery, the other Commission, dated 27th *February*, being neither revised nor attested, and the Election of the Persons therein mentioned having been made by only seven Ministers, before the ordinary Time of the Presbytery's Meeting, and while a greater Number of Members were in Town. *Ibid.*

Remitted to the Presbytery of *Hamilton* to proceed towards the Settlement of the Parish of *Cambushnethan*, as they shall judge best for the Edification of that Congregation. *May* 7th, *Sess.* 5.

Complaints by the Parish of *Auchtermuchty* and Presbytery of *Coupar* against the Commission of the late Assembly were tabled; and the said Complaints, with two other Complaints, by some Persons in the Parishes of *Troquire* and *Portmoak* against the foresaid Commission, ordered to be lodged with the Moderator of the said Commission, to see and answer the same when called upon. *Ibid.*

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Admitted the Complaint of the Presbytery of *Coupar* against the late Commission anent planting *Auchtermuchty*, and deferred further Consideration of the Affair till another *Sederunt*. *May* 8. *Sess.* 6.

The Draught of an Act declaring the 7th Act of Assembly 1730, and 8th Act of Assembly 1732, to be no longer binding Rules in this Church, approved; and remitted to the Committee for Overtures, to prepare an Overture concerning the Method of planting vacant Churches, to be transmitted by the Assembly to the several Presbyteries, for their Opinion to the next General Assembly. *May* 9th, *Sess.* 7.

Resumed Consideration of the Complaint of the Parishoners of *Auchtermuchty* and Presbytery of *Coupar* against the Commission, concerning the Settlement of Mr. *Matthew Moncrief* Probationer as Minister of *Auchtermuchty*; and found the Commission had exceeded their Powers, and therefore reversed the said Settlement. *May* 10th, *Sess.* 8.

His Majesty's Royal Warrant for 1000 *l. sterl.* towards the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands for this Year, delivered to the Assembly by the Lord Commissioner; and being read, ordered to be recorded. *May* 11th, *Sess.* 9.

Report of the Visitors of the Register of the Proceedings of the Committee of the last Assembly for managing the Royal Bounty for reforming the Highlands, brought in, and approved; and the said Visitors, join'd with some others, appointed to bring in the Nomination of a new Committee for distributing the Royal Bounty this Year. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agent for the Church their Accounts having been revised by the Committee formerly appointed for that End, were brought in, and ordered to ly upon the Table till another *Sederunt*, that any Members who incline may inspect the same. *Ibid.*

A Collection made in the Assembly-house for Relief of certain Persons recommended by Members, or applying for Charity. *Ibid.*

Report of the Visitors of the Commission-book, containing their Remarks thereupon, brought in, and a Letter from Mr. *Adam Fergusson* Minister at *Killin* produced, bearing his Endeavours to have intimated the said Commission's Sentence against Mr. *William Wilson*, from the Pulpit of the Old Church of *Perth*; but was hindered by several Persons who met him at some Distance from that Town in a tumultuous Manner. A Protest taken

againſt the Sheriff-ſubſtitute of *Perth* by Profeſſor *Campbell* at St. *Andrews*, for refuſing to give him Protection, in order to his intimating the Commiſſion's Sentence againſt Mr. *Alexander Moncrief*, from the Pulpit of the Church of *Abernethy*, alſo produced; and the ſame, with the ſaid Remarks, remitted to the Conſideration of the Committee for Overtures; and the Commiſſion-book is atteſted in the ordinary Form, with a Reſervation as to their Conduct and Sentence paſt againſt Maſters *Ebenezer Erskine*, *William Wilſon*, *Alexander Moncrief* and *James Fiſher*; excepting alſo from the Approbation of their Book the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Troquire*, and the Judgment given by them relative to the planting the Pariſh of *Portmoak*, which are reſerved till the Complaints concerning theſe be heard; reſerving alſo the Conſideration of the Remarks made on their Method of proceeding to, or executing other Settlements. *Ibid.*

The Members of this Aſſembly from the ſeveral Synods, appointed to meet and propoſe Perſons to be of the Committee for nominating the Members of the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

An Overture anent planting vacant Churches brought in, and ordered to ly upon the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

A Recommendation of the late Aſſembly for a Collection Beſouth *Tay*, for aſſiſting to build a Bridge over the Water of *Stincher*, in the Pariſh of *Calmonel*, renewed; and recommended to Deficients to fulfil the former Recommendation 'twixt and the 1ſt of *Auguſt*. *May* 13th, *Seſſ.* 10.

A Liſt of Perſons in the ſeveral Synods is brought in, and appointed as a Committee to draw the Commiſſion, and Inſtructions to, and name the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Report of a Committee named to bring in the Draught of a Commiſſion to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, approved. *Ibid.*

An Overture was brought in concerning Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine*, Mr. *William Wilſon*, Mr. *Alexander Moncrief*, and Mr. *James Fiſher* Miniſters, whoſe Relations to their ſeveral Charges were looſed by Sentence of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, and a Committee was named to prepare an Overture with Relation to the ſaid four Brethren. *Ibid.*

An Overture concerning the regulating the Powers of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly brought in, and appointed to ly upon the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

Reference and Recommendation to the Commiſſion to conſider Inſtructions from Synods and Presbyteries againſt Profaneneſs, Popery, Infidelity; and concerning Patronages, appointing Faſts and Thankſgivings, Doctrine, *Jacobite* Meeting-houſes and Burſers, and proceed therein according to the Powers granted them. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to wait on the Earl of *Morton*, to return his Lordſhip Thanks for the Encouragement he gives to Miniſters in *Orknay* and *Zetland*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Orknay*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, *Drumfries*, *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fife*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, and *Roſs*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, atteſted in the uſual Form. *Ibid.*

The Excuſes offered why the Synod Books of *Galloway* *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Aberdeen* and *Glenelg*, were not produced, were ſuſtained, and the ſaid Books appointed to be laid before the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Petition for the Presbytery of *Abernethy*, for a Preacher and Catechiſt to their Bounds, and Recommendation of the Synod of *Murray*, in favours of Mr. *James Sutherland* Probationer; alſo a Repreſentation of the ſaid Synod for an itinerant Preacher to the remote Corners of the Pariſh of *Elgin*, remitted to the Committee for the Royal Bounty. *Ibid.*

Appointment on the Procurator and Agent for the Church to appear in Oppoſition to a Proceſs for Annexation of the two Pariſhes of *Whitſome* and *Hilton* into one; alſo in a Proceſs anent repairing the Miniſter of *Hilton*'s Manſe, and that the Charges of defending the ſaid Proceſs of Annexation be born out of the publick Fund of the Church. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to take the moſt effectual Way for obtaining the Redemption of *William Dowel* taken Priſoner, and detained a Slave at *Algiers*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to conſider a Petition of the Presbytery of *Meigle*, in Relation to the applying the Synod Burſe of *Angus* and *Mearns*, for Support of a Preacher or Catechiſt in ſome remote Pariſhes in their Bounds, and in the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*. *Ibid.*

Synod Book of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs* atteſted in the uſual Form. *May* 14th, *Seſſ. ult.*

The Report of a Committee for nominating the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, and drawing Inſtructions to them, brought in and approved. *Ibid.*

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The Draught of an Act concerning Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* and other three Miniſters, approved. *Ibid.*

Overture about Miniſterial Freedom, approved and enacted. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Commiſſion to conſider an Overture about the Manner of Preaching; and if they think fit, to report the ſame to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Overture concerning the regulating Commiſſions, not proceeded in for Want of Time. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to judge in a Proceſs and Appeal by Sir *John Dalrymple* and others, in Relation to the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Heriot*. *Ibid.*

A Proceſs concerning the Tranſportation of Mr. *John Barclay* Miniſter at *Morham*, to the Pariſh of *Preſtonkirk*, is referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion is impowered to determine in a Proceſs relating to the Settlement of the vacant Church of *Broughton*. *Ibid.*

'Tis remitted to the Commiſſion not only to decide in a Reference from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweedale*, concerning the planting the Pariſh of *Carridden*, but alſo to cognoſce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal which ſhall be regularly brought before them from the ſaid Synod, relating to the planting of the ſaid Pariſh. *Ibid.*

A Proceſs and Appeal anent Settlement of the Pariſh of *Dron*, and another Appeal about planting the Pariſh of *Dennie*, alſo two ſeveral Appeals relative to the Settlement of *Kemback* Pariſh, are referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

A Complaint of the Pariſh of *Troquire* againſt the late Commiſſion, anent the planting of that Pariſh, is for Want of Time referred to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Petition for Sir *John Bruce* of *Kinroſs*, and a Reference of the Commiſſion of the late Aſſembly, concerning the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Portmoak*, is referred to be judged by the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, and a Complaint of the ſaid Pariſh againſt the foreſaid late Commiſſion referred to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion is inſtructed to judge in an Appeal of *William Logan* in *Glenachy*, from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, and another Appeal of *James Paterſon* in *Nethergate* from the Synod of *Drumfries*, in Proceſſes of Scandal againſt them. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Procurator and Agent for the Church their Diligence in obtaining an Erection of a new Pa-

riſh in *Bara* and *Southuiſt*, and anent ſettling a Miniſter there, and the late Commiſſion's allowing 25 *l. Sterl.* to Mr. *John M'Pherſon* Probationer to go thither; alſo concerning the Grievances of the Miniſters of *Strath* and *Applecroſs*, and anent tranſporting the Church of *Contane*, brought in. *Ibid.*

Remitted to the Commiſſion to receive the Report of a Committee named concerning ſome Libraries gifted by charitable Perſons; alſo to give Advice and Aſſiſtance for removing the Grievances of Miniſters in the new erected Synods of *Glenelg*, *Orkney* and *Caithneſs*, and Presbytery of *Mull*. The Commiſſion is alſo to receive the Report of a Committee appointed to call Collectors of Contributions made for charitable Uſes to an Account, and for ſecuring the Collections on Annualrent till Money come in to anſwer the Deſign of the Recommendations. *Ibid.*

Remitted to the Commiſſion to take proper Meaſures for ſettling and encouraging a Miniſter for the Iſle of *Coll*, and ſupporting the Miniſter of *Tirree*; alſo to conſider a Claim of Mr. *Patrick Scot* Miniſter at *Carnwath*, Recommendation of the Synod of *Murray* anent Mr. *Farquhar Beton* Miniſter at *Croy*; alſo the Caſe of Mr. *Æneas Sage* Miniſter at *Lochcaron* for a Share of the Church's publick Money.

Report is made anent Claims on the Church's publick Money, and found, That there remains of the Sums mentioned in the laſt Year's Report as due, the Church's Printers Accounts, Mr. *William Innes*'s and Mr. *William Roſs*'s Claims, (with an Addition of 113 *l.* 3 *ſh. Scots*, not formerly inſtructed, whereof the Vouchers were now produced) Mr. *Andrew Ker*, Mrs. *Fraſer*, Mr. *Robert Abercrombie*, Presbytery of *Long-Iſland*'s Accounts, Mr. *Francis Robertſon*, Mr. *Murdo M'Leod*, Mr. *Thomas Fraſer*, Mr. *Donald M'Leod*, Mr. *Robert Gray*, Mr. *Thomas Waldie*, Mr. *Hugh Mowat*, Mr. *Hugh Corſe*, Mr. *John Skello*, Mr. *William Gordon*, amounting to the Sum of 281 *l.* 18 *ſh.* 11 *d. Sterl.* and rectifying a Miſtake in the laſt Year's Ranking.

Report of Viſitors who compared a Copy of a Regiſter of the General Aſſembly's Proceedings from the Year 1560 to 1608, with a Regiſter now in the Theological Library at *Edinburgh*, ſubſcribed by Mr. *Thomas Nicolſon* then Clerk of Aſſembly brought in, and the ſaid Viſitors appointed to atteſt the ſaid Regiſter to be a true Tranſcript

script of the Original, and Reference to some Ministers and Elders in *Edinburgh*, for recovering the old Registers of the Church. *Ibid.*

Report made, That the Registers of the Church from 1702, are laid up, conform to Acts of Assembly, and Copies of Proceedings and Accounts anent new Parishes of *Diurness*, *Tongue* and *Edracills*, anent the *Scots* Church in *New-York* are prepared. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Ministers of *Edinburgh* and Suburbs to consider of and prepare some Overtures about raising a Fund for Maintenance of Ministers Widows and Children, and to report to the Commission or General Assembly. *Ibid.*

Remitted to the Commission the Processes before the last Assembly, concerning *William Dudgeon*, *John Baxter*, *John M'Taggart*, and the Case of Mr. *Thomas Nairn* Minister at *Abbotshall*. *Ibid.*

Referred to the Committee for the Royal Bounty the Demand of the Presbytery of *Tongue*, for employing Mr. *John Monro* as an itinerant Preacher. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accounts of Mr. *William Grant* Procurator for the Church his Intromissions with his Majesty's Allowance to the Church for the Terms of Midsummer last and Preceedings, and discharging him and his Cautioner thereof, except a Ballance of 12 *l.* 4 *sh.* 7 *d.* ½ to be stated as an Article of Charge upon him in his next Accounts. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accounts of *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church his Intromissions with the Church's Money, preceeding the 1st of *May* Current, and discharging him of his said Intromissions, and ordering Payment to him of 4 *l.* 12 *sh.* 2 *d.* ½ *Sterl.* resting to him, as mentioned in the foresaid Accounts. *Ibid.*

The Commission instructed to judge in any Reference or Appeal which may be brought before them from the Synod of *Murray*, in Relation to the planting the Parish of *Boharm*.

Protestation admitted against the Presbytery of *Tongue*, for not insisting in their Appeal from the Synod of *Sutherland* and *Caithness*, their Sentence, appointing Mr. *John Skeldo* at *Kilmanivaig* to be admitted Minister at *Farr*, in Consequence of a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, transporting him to that Parish, and the said Appeal declared fallen from. *Ibid.*

The List of Probationers and Students in Divinity given in, and the Probationers Names, being 250 in Number, ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

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A Committee appointed to reviſe this Aſſembly's Proceedings, and to give Orders about printing ſuch of the Acts thereof as are to be ſtanding Rules, and of publick Uſe. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Day's Sederunt were read. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speeches to the Aſſembly, and his Majeſty's Commiſſioner.

The King's Commiſſioner made a Speech, and then the Aſſembly was concluded.

FINIS.